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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/789,821	02/27/2004	Revital Lifshitz-Liron	1662/62902	8234
26646	7590	04/13/2006	EXAMINER	
KENYON & KENYON LLP ONE BROADWAY NEW YORK, NY 10004			DESAI, RITA J	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1625	

DATE MAILED: 04/13/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/789,821

Applicant(s)

LIFSHITZ-LIRON ET AL.

Examiner

Rita J. Desai

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 January 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-12 are pending.

The rejection under 35 USC 103 still stands.

Applicants arguments that the examiner has not provided any references to show that changing the pH brings about precipitation and then it is dried to form recrystallized Zolendronic acid.

The examiner now is providing references.

One of them is the Separation of impurities from leach Liquors 6.2.2 and selective precipitation 6.2.2.1, 1993. Hayes .

The reference teaches separating impurities from a suspension by selective precipitation by controlling and changing the pH. See the whole document which teaches that changing the pH is a common process for precipitation and removing impurities.


IUPAC Compendium of Chemical Terminology 1997 also defines the precipitation titrations.

Also see chem.vt.edu definition of titration and the relation ship between the pH and neutralization.

Le Chateliers Principle also shows that as the pH changes the reaction proceed in one direction and precipitation would occur. Thus as we increase the H ion concentration (lower the pH) the acid in the solution would proceed to go out of the solution and get precipitated out leaving all the basic impurities in solution. Thus a purer acid would be separated. See the lectures by Angel C.de Dios Chem 056.

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Zolendronic acid is an acid of the formula  and in a basic solution it would be in solution. The addition of an acid would move the reaction in the direction to precipitate it out.

Also see the principles for Complexation and precipitation Titrations, Volumetric (Titrimetric) Analysis. These references shed some more light with regards to the precipitation reactions. Also see the protein purification handbook, 1997, which teaches more commercial use of changing the pH to precipitate out substances.

Solubility of Ionic Salts in water: Precipitation titrations. Nov. 1996 James Plambeck. Also teaches how salts precipitate out and the common ion effect.

Thus with the above teaching known to a skill in the art it would have been obvious to precipitate out the Zolendronic acid from its basic solution by the addition of an acid solution, thus reducing the pH to obtain the precipitate.

Thus the rejection still stands.

Conclusion

Claims 1-12 are rejected.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rita J. Desai whose telephone number is 571-272-0684. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 9:30 am to 6:00 pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cecilia Tsang can be reached on 571-272-0562. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Rita J. Desai
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1625

R.D.
April 10, 2006

RDesai
4/11/06